

**GRAND COMMANDERY  
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR**



**STATE OF ILLINOIS**

**Grand Prelates Christmas Message 2025**

“And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. Bu the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”  
(Luke 2, vs 8-12)\

As Knights Templar, we well know that our Blessed Savior, Jesus, humbled himself to be born of woman, to live as one of us, to suffer and to die. Focusing on his birth, which is what we celebrate at Christmas, we note that he had very humble beginnings. Although God could have chosen any woman to be his mother, such as the daughter of a king or emperor, he chose a common girl who was betrothed to a common carpenter or stone mason.

To further these humble beginnings, God chose to send his angel to announce the birth of Jesus to a group of shepherds, not the local Rabbi or political leaders, but some lowly, dirty, most likely young men who were doing the job no one else wanted, while the rest of the people were asleep.

As we celebrate this Christmas with our families and loved ones, let us be mindful and compassionate to those who are less fortunate, who have those jobs that no one else wants, who keeps watch while we are sleeping. Let us remember that God came to them first to announce the birth of his son.

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